

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1306

E.O. 11652: GDS, 31-12-80

TAGS: MARR, NATO

SUBJ: DISPOSITION OF NATO-HAWK JOINTLY-OWNED MAINTENANCE FLOAT MATERIAL

REFS: A. HMO/10.9.01/0809/74, 28 FEB 74 (POUCHED).

B. USNATO 1012, 222300Z FEB 74.

C. DALO-ILS MSG 051859Z MAR 74.

1. THE NATO-HAWK GENERAL MANAGER (GEN MANCINI) HAS ADDRESSED A LETTER (REF A) TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE NATO-HAWK BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOD) OUTLINING THE PROBLEM OF DISPOSITION OF MAINTENANCE FLOAT, AND EXPRESSING THE HOPE THAT THE US REPRESENTATIVE (COL LYNCH) WILL BE IN A POSITION AT THE MARCH BOD MEETING EITHER TO WITHDRAW HIS RESERVATION ON DISPOSITION OR ELSE TO SUBMIT DEFINITIVE ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT OF THE US POINT OF VIEW. IN EARLIER COMMUNICATIONS TO GEN. MANCINI (CITED IN REF B) THE US MEMBER ASSERTED OWNERSHIP CLAIM AS INSTRUCTED BY WASHINGTON.

2. BY WAY OF GENERAL BACKGROUND, WASHINGTON WILL HAVE NOTED THAT NATO-HAWK HAS JUST SIGNED CONTRACT WITH RAYTHEON CORP. WITH LARGE POSITIVE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS EFFECT FOR THE US. US IS EVEN NOW IN PROCESS OF ENCOURAGING THE NATO-HAWK PRODUCTION AND LOGISTICS ORGANIZATION (NHPLO) TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROPOSALS (PIPS) AT A COST TO THE NHPLO OF \$4.5 MILLION
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(PER US OFFER IN REF C).

3. USNATO NEEDS A LOGICAL, WELL-CONSTRUCTED PERSUASIVE LEGAL BRIEF TO PRESENT TO NATO-HAWK BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING SCHEDULED

FOR MARCH 19-21. THERE IS NO REASON TO BELIVE THAT BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL REVERSE GENERAL MANCINI'S FEB 28 "CONCLUSION" THAT US NO LONGER HAS PROPRIETARY INTEREST IN MAINTENANCE FLOAT (REF A) UNTIL US PRODUCES CAREFULLY DOCUMENTED CASE THAT WILL CONVINCE AN IMPARTIAL JUDGE. EVEN THEN, ONE CAN HARDLY EXPECT SUPPORT FROM DENMARK, FROM GREECE OR FROM ITALY FOR ANY COURSE OF ACTION EITHER WILL DEPRIVE THEM OF MATERIEL OR COST THEM HARD CURRENCY.

4. TO MUSTER THE SUPPORT THAT USNATO WILL NEED TO ENFORCE CLAIM FOR OWNERSHIP OF MAINTENANCE FLOAT MATERIEL, MISSION NEEDS APPROPRIATE GUIDANCE AND BRIEFING MATERIAL BY MARCH 14. RECEIPT BY THAT DATE WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR MISSION OFFICERS TO DO NECESSARY ADVANCE CORRIDOR WORK WITH INTERNATIONAL STAFF AND ALLIED DELEGATIONS, AND TO STATE THAT US IS PREPARED TO CARRY THIS ISSUE TO PERMREP LEVEL IN NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL. MCAULIFFE

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